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Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: Hong Kong past and present is represented in this photograph of fishing boats against the skyline of 20th century buildings.

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At the Library of Congress booth at the American Library Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco, staffers greet visitors.

LC at the ALA

Henriette Avram Receives Honorary Life Membership

More than 22,000 people descended the hilly streets of San Francisco to attend the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Convention, June 28-July 1, at the Moscone Convention Center. For those attendees from the Library of Congress, it was a chance not only to meet with their colleagues from across the country and around the world but also to see a former staffer honored by the world's largest library association.

Henriette Avram

Visitors to the Library's exhibition booth were able to get demonstrations of the latest American Memory collections, learn new ways of searching the Library's on-line catalogs, purchase products from the Sales Shop and win prizes from the Cataloging Distribution Service. Also on hand were representatives from the Copyright Office, the Center for the Book and (at another booth) the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

In what is perhaps a testament to the success of the Library's Internet initiatives (and the efforts to promote them), most of the visitors to the booth were quite familiar with LC's Web site. Rather than being interested in a general demonstration of the main home page, they most wanted to see (and hear) the new on-line collections, which had debuted that weekend. Californians were especially excited by the collections focusing on their home state: "California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the Thirties" and "California as I Saw It: First-Person Narratives of California's Early Years, 1849-1900."

During the Opening General Session on Sunday, June 29, Henriette Avram, who retired from the Library in 1992 after 27 years of service, received Honorary Life Membership in ALA. The achievement for which she is best known, her leadership in the development of the MARC (machine-readable cataloging) standard, was cited by Mary Somerville, outgoing ALA president. Working with ALA and various national and international standards organizations, Mrs. Avram played a crucial role in the worldwide acceptance of MARC, which is still used today.

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A 'Living Document'

Strategic Plan to Take Library to 21st Century

Dr. Billington and senior Library executives recently briefed some 300 LC managers and supervisors on the first phase of an updated strategic plan to take the Library forward through the year 2004.

Unlike past LC strategic plans, this one links plans to specific efforts and money in a multiyear budget.

At the July 16 session, Dr. Billington emphasized that the updated plan and its implementation process were the means to an end — carrying out the Library's historic mission. Stated anew by Dr. Billington in 1995 and reaffirmed by the 104th Congress in May 1996, "The Library's mission is to make its resources available and useful to Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations."

Though budget-linked planning means "getting into a lot of process," Dr. Billington said that "we are going to [carry out our mission] better and we are going to do it differently. ... The challenge of doing something better means that we are all working together, and we all have to help each other."

Chief of Staff Jo Ann Jenkins, who led a Library-wide task force that updated the plan (see box on page 265) said the key second phase would consist of 11 strategic miniplans — one for each service unit (Office of the Librarian, Library Services, Congressional Research Services, Law Library, Copyright), human resources, security, support services, technology services, financial services and the National Digital Library. These plans, coordinated in advance, would align unit priorities, deadlines and budgets. These Phase II plans are 75 percent complete, she said.

The "Library of Congress Strategic Plan (1997-2004)" is a "living document," Ms. Jenkins said, and will be updated periodically. "This is our vision for the 21st century; this is what we want to look like."

The vision statement appears in one simple sentence: "The Library leads the nation in ensuring access to knowledge and information and in promoting its creative use for Congress and its constituents."

Ms. Jenkins said the new plan targets four major areas for improvements:

"1. Continuing high-quality service to Congress.

"2. Securing our people, collections, and buildings.

"3. Improving human resources, including the way we hire and develop staff.

"4. Continuing our innovation in technology to make our collections more accessible, not only to scholars but in every household and school in America."

The chief of staff instructed Library managers and supervisors to distribute copies of the plan and discuss it at meetings with all of their employees during the next 45 days.

"We want every employee to understand that we have institutional priorities and that they play an important role in accomplishing them," Ms. Jenkins said.

Plan Has Purpose

Thomas Bryant, introduced by Deputy Librarian Donald Scott as LC's director of the new Planning, Management, and Evaluation Directorate (see story on page 266), explained the purpose of strategic planning: "The point of the exercise is this. You look at a vision: 'This is where I'm going to go. Then I plan how I'm going to get there'. ... You lay out your plans, you develop your programs, you link those to the resources required ... and then you go through the process of putting your budget together."

Having to articulate their programs and needs puts managers in a better position to defend their resources, Mr. Bryant said.

Managers and supervisors will be required to evaluate how well they are doing in the execution of their plans. "You can't be afraid to do that," he said. "Are you using the resources properly? Are you guarding them? Do we need some shifting around of resources ... as a team effort?"

Mr. Bryant's role will be to conduct quarterly reviews of the planning-budgeting process to ensure that service units stay on target and that their plans, programs and budgets support the Library's mission, vision and priorities. These reviews will lead back into more planning. "It's a good process, folks," he said.

Planning Assumptions

Ms. Jenkins said the task force began its work with four basic assumptions: That the new Strategic Plan would be a "living document that would not sit on the shelf"; that programs should drive the budget rather than the other way around; that "everyone ... should use the priorities to guide effective and efficient decision-making"; and that performance management is critical to measure the results and accomplishments. "Individual performance plans are being revised to reflect action objectives identified in the strategic plan," she said.

Angela Evans, deputy director of the Congressional Research Service and a member of the task force, described the planning process as one of task force members meeting many times, sharing "a lot of information," building on the past work of many attending the July 16 briefing, and finally, arriving at consensus.

Priorities and Strategies

Ms. Evans emphasized that Priority I is to serve Congress: "We have the knowledge and creativity available here to give Congress what it needs to do its work, ... to help [members] solve their problems, to help them make the right decisions for the American people and to help them lead the world in many areas. ... We have to anticipate what they need, and when they come here, we have to deliver."

"This is a very high calling," Ms. Evans said, adding, "We going to do a good job of it. We're going to do it together."

Ellen Hahn, who was standing in for Diane Kresh, acting director for public service collections, Library Services,

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Priorities and Strategic Plan Objectives

Priority I. "To make knowledge and creativity available to the United States Congress."

Strategic plan objectives:

I.1 To fulfill all congressional mandates so well that Congress confidently continues to rely upon the Library to meet those needs;

I.2 To meet or exceed needs and expectations of Congress for legislative research, analysis and information services at a level of sustained excellence; and

I.3 To assure that Congress is fully cognizant of the services and resources of the Library of Congress, and has ready and reliable access to them.

Priority II. "To acquire, organize, preserve, secure, and sustain for the present and future use of Congress and the Nation a comprehensive record of American history and creativity and a universal collection of human knowledge."

Strategic plan objectives:

II.1 To develop and maintain the Library's universal collections in all formats and languages, acquiring them through copyright, gift, exchange, purchase and transfer, in the most timely and cost-effective manner to support the Library's mission;

II.2 To ensure that the Library's collections, both physical and electronic, are appropriately secure;

II.3 To achieve arrearage reduction goals;

II.4 To provide innovative and effective bibliographic, intellectual and physical control that is appropriate, timely and of high quality for all of the Library's collections;

II.5 To ensure the preservation of the Library's collections for current and future use, using appropriate preservation treatment and technologies;

II.6 To lead the development, maintenance, and dissemination (both nationally and internationally) of standards needed for: effective electronic interchange of documents and bibliographic data; preservation; and the theory and practice of cataloging; and

II.7 To organize, sustain and make more usable the record of American creativity through copyright registration, deposit and recordation systems.

Priority III. "To make the Library's collections maximally accessible to Congress, the U.S. government more broadly and the public."

Strategic plan objectives:

III.1 To lead in the area of electronic outreach by contributing to a national digital library that provides both broad access to the Library's collections and links to other significant, publicly available information, regardless of its location and format;

III.2 To make the Library's collections available both nationally and internationally through use of digital technology, lending and document delivery;

III.3 To provide high-quality service to users accessing the Library by telephone, correspondence and electronic means;

III.4 To sustain high-quality service to users of the Library's reading rooms, research areas and collections;

III.5 To broaden awareness and use of the Library's special and foreign-language collections and reading rooms;

III.6 To sustain and improve high-quality service to blind and physically handicapped patrons; and

III.7 To develop a plan to continue the National Digital Library Program beyond the year 2000.

Priority IV. "To add interpretive and educational value to the basic resources of the Library in order to enhance the quality of the creative work and intellectual activity derived from these resources, and to highlight the importance of the Library to the nation's well-being and future progress."

Strategic plan objectives:

IV.1 To foster creative scholarship in the Library's unique collections including foreign-language and special-format materials;

IV.2 To promote awareness of the Library and fuller and more varied use of its resources through national and international copyright services, exhibits, concerts, publications, associations, conferences, colloquia and other interpretive programs.

Enabling Infrastructure: "To accomplish its mission the Library must have an efficient and effective infrastructure with five key components:

- "The mobilization and motivation of human resources in all parts and at all levels of the Library.

Strategic objectives are to: Provide human resources leadership to the Library's internal constituency; formulate and put in place a comprehensive personnel program that will significantly improve timeliness, efficiency and responsiveness to client needs; and promote equal employment opportunity at the Library of Congress and facilitate resolutions of disputes fairly and quickly.

- "The provision and delivery of electronic services in order to serve the departments of the Library in the execution of the Library's mission and priorities with speed, quality and economy.

Strategic objectives are to: Align the Library's current information technology resources with its overall priorities and develop technological architecture that will support the Library's objectives; improve information technology customer satisfaction, and establish and enforce information technology standards that will ensure compatibility of information technology systems.

- "The allocation and use of space and equipment in order to preserve and make accessible the artifactual collections and to maximize the efficiency, productivity and well-being of the staff.

Strategic objectives for support services are to: promote occupational health and safety and provide a healthy, safe environment for staff and visitors; provide facility management, space and interior design support; provide procurement and logistical support, and provide records management, mail distribution, printing and transportation services.

- "The operation of modern financial and information systems to facilitate decision-making and ensure accountability.

Strategic objectives are to: provide financial services (budget, accounting, disbursal and travel) to its clients and conduct program activities, allocate resources and ensure accountability; and improve the Library's financial and legal framework, policies and procedures.

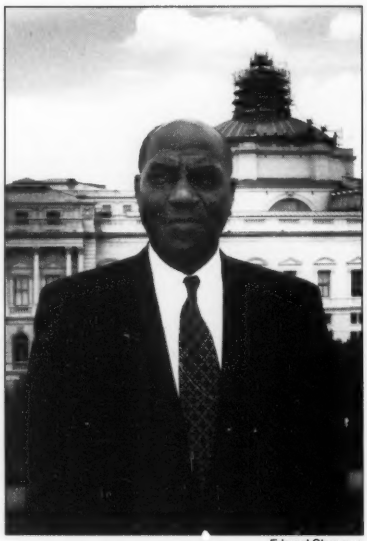
- "The operation of effective security systems that ensure adequate access and at the same time provide maximum protection for the staff and patrons, facilities, data and collections."

Strategic objectives are to ensure the security of Library staff, visitors, facilities, collections and other assets.

Bryant Named Director of Planning, Management, and Evaluation

Dr. Billington has announced the appointment of Thomas Bryant as director of the Planning, Management and Evaluation Directorate for the Library. He assumed his duties on June 30.

"Mr. Bryant is a welcomed addition to the management team. He will work closely with the Strategic Planning Committee and the Financial Services Directorate to establish the Program, Management and Evaluation system," said Dr. Billington. The overall responsibility of the director is to implement, manage and administer the planning and program performance review components of the Library of Congress Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution System (PPBES). The program performance review component is a mechanism used for regular review of program and budget execution to ensure that the Library's mission, goals and objectives are being accomplished in the most effective and efficient manner.



Edward Ohnemus

Thomas Bryant

"Tom Bryant is widely regarded as a dynamic leader who gets things done and brings out the best in those with whom he works," said Deputy Librarian Donald Scott. "He has successfully managed the Programming, Budgeting and Execution System both in the military and as a civilian."

Mr. Bryant is a native of Baltimore. He graduated from Morgan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics (1963), received his master's in computer science from Kansas State University (1976) and studied at the Army War College (1990). During his 30 years with the U.S. Army, he held various command and staff positions, including company commander in Vietnam; assistant professor of military science at Michigan State University; staff officer, mobilization for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and an inspector general at the Pentagon. He retired with the rank of colonel in July 1993.

He has worked since 1994 as program manager and director of operations with Automation Research Systems in Alexandria, Va.

Mr. Bryant will report directly to the Deputy Librarian of Congress.

Plan

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pointed out that Priority II, sustaining the collections, has been expanded from the 1995 version to include acquisitions and cataloging.

She noted that security of the collections and arrearage reduction are high-priority items for Library Services.

Ms. Hahn observed that Priority III objectives support the National Digital Library and other efforts to make the collections accessible.

Jill Brett, public affairs officer, standing in for Laura Campbell, director of the National Digital Library, said Priority IV, to add interpretive and educational value to the resources of the Library, "is an integral part of serving Congress, sustaining the collections, and making them widely accessible."

Ms. Brett said the Library cannot be as certain of support as Queen Victoria, who according to one story never had to look behind her before sitting down because she knew she could depend on a chair always being in place. "If we want to assure the future of this great institution, then we must all become advocates of the Library's invaluable place in our society," she said.

Ms. Brett said a Library bicentennial celebration being planned for the year 2000 provides an opportunity to build a broader national constituency for the Library. She said the goals of the Bicentennial Committee, led by Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole, are to heighten the Library's visibility with the American public, to illustrate and celebrate the Library's mission, to increase use of the Library's resources and to broaden the base of support throughout the nation for the Library and its programs.

Gary Capriotti, facility services officer, said: "To accomplish its mission and support its four priorities, the Library must have an efficient and effective infrastructure with five key components" (see page 265).

Planning and Budgeting

Financial Services Director John D. Webster reported that the Library is implementing a new Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution System (PPBES), which will outline the total cost of multiyear initiatives and detail initiatives so that managers can weigh options based on cost, benefit and opportunity. The new system links budgets to strategic plans. Mr. Webster introduced Kathy Williams, who is managing the new system, which is being phased in for the 1999 fiscal year.

He also briefly discussed the "management decision package" (MDEP), which he said is a resource management tool by which managers link multiyear programs to strategic planning objectives and budgets. One MDEP can be written for a program with Library-wide implications, such as security.

— *Gail Fineberg*

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

The *Catechismus* at 450

Anniversary of First Lithuanian Book Celebrated

Vytautas Landsbergis, president of the Lithuanian Seimas (parliament), spoke at the Library of Congress on June 19 at an event commemorating the 450th anniversary of the first Lithuanian book, the *Catechismus*, of Martynas Mazvydas. Cosponsored by the Embassy of Lithuania, the European Division and the Library's Office of Interpretive Programs (IPO), the event also marked the opening of a display in the new European Reading Room of selected treasures from the Library's Lithuanian collections.

Irene Chambers, director of IPO, welcomed Mr. Landsbergis and Lithuanian Ambassador Alfonsas Eidintas, and showed them the Lithuanian items in the Library's display, which included 19th and 20th century editions of classics published in Lithuania and the United States, and a facsimile of a map showing Lithuania in the 15th century.

John Van Oudenaren, chief of the European Division, introduced the speaker and noted that while many visitors to the Library were prominent in the field of culture while others had made their mark in politics, Mr. Landsbergis was remarkable for his achievements in both areas. A musicologist by profession, Mr. Landsbergis was elected to the Council of People's Deputies of the Soviet Union in 1989 and subsequently led Lithuania to independence in the early 1990s.

Mr. Landsbergis's remarks emphasized the interaction among nation, language, religion and the book. "Any book is a created innovation and, simultaneously, an accumulation and reflection of different things that existed before it. Books store and convey the knowledge and the wisdom of the people's community and the whole humanity. A book becomes a written message of a nation and a continuation of its spirit, and this gives another stimulus for a new creative work."

"Vilna Litvaniae Metropolis," from Georg Braun and Franz Hogenburg, *Théâtre des Cités du Monde. Cologne: 1584.* Geography and Map Division. This 16th-century image of Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, is displayed in a small exhibition in the European Division Reading Room. Prepared by Irene Chambers and Martha Hopkins of the Interpretive Programs Office with assistance from Lithuanian-American staff members, the exhibition consists primarily of books by selected Lithuanian writers represented in the Library of Congress collections. It celebrates the 450th the anniversary of the first printed Lithuanian book and demonstrates the depth and continuity of the country's rich literary tradition.

He explained that the *Catechismus* was organized in four parts. "The introductory part, about the purpose of work, is a dedication to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, an encouragement and an explanation in Latin to Lithuanian priests, and then there is the famous rhymed introduction in Lithuanian — a speech of 'the little book itself' 'to the Lithuanians and the Samogitians.' "

The book's second part deals with the teaching of reading and writing in the Lithuanian language: a short primer that contains an explanation of "vowels, diphthongs and consonants," and advice on teaching children to read.

The third and main part of the book contains religious texts: "the Ten Commandments, the Credo, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacraments and also the fifth stanza of the catechism 'about the law of stewards, life of every man, how one should live in his standing by the will of God.' These are the principles or rules to the rich, the farmers and the servants, men, women and children, their mutual obligations." The final section of the book, Mr. Landsbergis noted, is a book of hymns and music, with explanations by Mazvydas.

"This first book marked the start of the Lithuanian written language, which in itself meant many other starts. ..."

"The first Lithuanian guide to religious beliefs came into being, which, among other things, contained the rules of a Christian way of life, indeed, the 'instructions' for all ranks and classes, as if representing some moral code."

Mr. Landsbergis went on to note that Mazvydas's pastoral, cultural and educational work formed a valuable part of the Baltic region's heritage. "Lithuania survived for the reason that there was the Lithuanian language, because there was the book, and because there was Mazvydas. Truly it is marvelous that there was a man whose name was Mazvydas."

American Scripture

Author Pauline Maier and the Declaration of Independence

On July 3 Pauline Maier, a leading historian of the American Revolution, spoke at the Library on a topic appropriate for the nation's 221st birthday.

Her "Books and Beyond" lecture was in conjunction with the release of her new book, *American Scripture: Making the Declaration of Independence* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf). The book, a history and exegesis of America's first national utterance, at once deconstructs and demystifies the authorship of that famous document, which Ms. Maier says was created by practical men with distinct and limited political objectives.

Pauline Maier has taught at Harvard University, the University of Massachusetts, the University of Wisconsin, Yale University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she is currently a professor of American history. Her previous books include *From Resistance to Revolution* (1972) *and The Old Revolutionaries: Political Lives in the Age of Samuel Adams* (1980).

Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole introduced Ms. Maier by reminding the audience that the official signed copy of the Declaration, issued by the members of the Second Continental Congress in 1776, resided at the Library until 1952, when it was moved to the National Archives upon passage of the Federal Records Act (see story on page 267). The Library retains, however, Jefferson's original rough draft, which was on display as part of its permanent exhibition, "American Treasures of the Library of Congress." (The document, which was on view for three months, has been replaced with George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights, considered to be a basis for Jefferson's work.)

Ms. Maier used the opportunity to critique this draft version, the reflection of a work-in-progress that she finds to be "the most interesting and the most human" of documents. "The original rough draft gives us a wonderful record of the whole evolution of the document." It also offers proof that many minds were involved in the creation of the ultimate draft of the Declaration signed by Congress.

Inspired Images

Pauline Maier

The drafting committee, consisting of Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston, chose Jefferson to compose the first draft. Working in a pinch, said Ms. Maier, Jefferson probably drew on sources familiar to him. The first two paragraphs, for example, appear to be influenced by his own previously written preamble to the Virginia Constitution, which was rejected, and the Virginia Declaration of the Rights of Man, written by George Mason and published in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* on June 12, 1776.

Only a fragment of Jefferson's first compositional draft has survived, although a longhand copy, made by John Adams, provides some additional clues to its contents. After that, Jefferson incorporated the committee's revisions into a second draft. The committee edited that draft and presented a "fair copy" of this document to Congress, which made more revisions of its own. After printing the document eventually approved by Congress, the printer, Dunlap, probably threw that draft away.

But Jefferson saved the second draft, showing some revisions of Franklin and Adams in their own handwriting, and the changes Congress made later. This is the document the Library holds. In addition, Thomas Jefferson made six annotated longhand copies of the official congressional draft explaining the ways in which his draft had been "mutilated." Four of these six survive, at the Library of Congress, the American Philosophical Society, New York Public Library and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Ms. Maier also interpreted the most hallowed passages of the Declaration, including its assertion that "All men are created equal." The phrase has troubled later generations, especially since the mandate seemed to exclude women, who did not win the right to vote until 1920, and blacks, who were not freed from slavery until the Civil War.

The concepts of liberty and equality presented in the Declaration, said Ms. Maier, can only be understood in the terms of the time and with reference to the particular grievances spelled out in the document, a conservatively crafted statement of "the right of revolution." "Liberty and equality," she suggested, meant only that men like the drafters — educated, propertied, free and white — could not be forced to surrender their lives or property without their consent.

Slavery, Ms. Maier acknowledged, was an "anomaly" of which the drafters were aware, but which they chose not to address: a decision with fateful consequences for the nation. It was Abraham Lincoln, author of the Emancipation Proclamation, she said, who reinterpreted the Declaration of Independence and made it applicable to all.

"Lincoln made blacks, immigrants and late-arrivers 'bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh' with the Founders," she said.

Interpreting the Declaration of Independence, said Ms. Maier, has become a quasi-religious exercise. Some, including the late Julian Boyd, have viewed the document as akin to Holy Scripture, said Ms. Maier. Without denying the achievement of the drafters, Ms. Maier attempts to bring the story of the Declaration down to earth. "The humanity lies in know-

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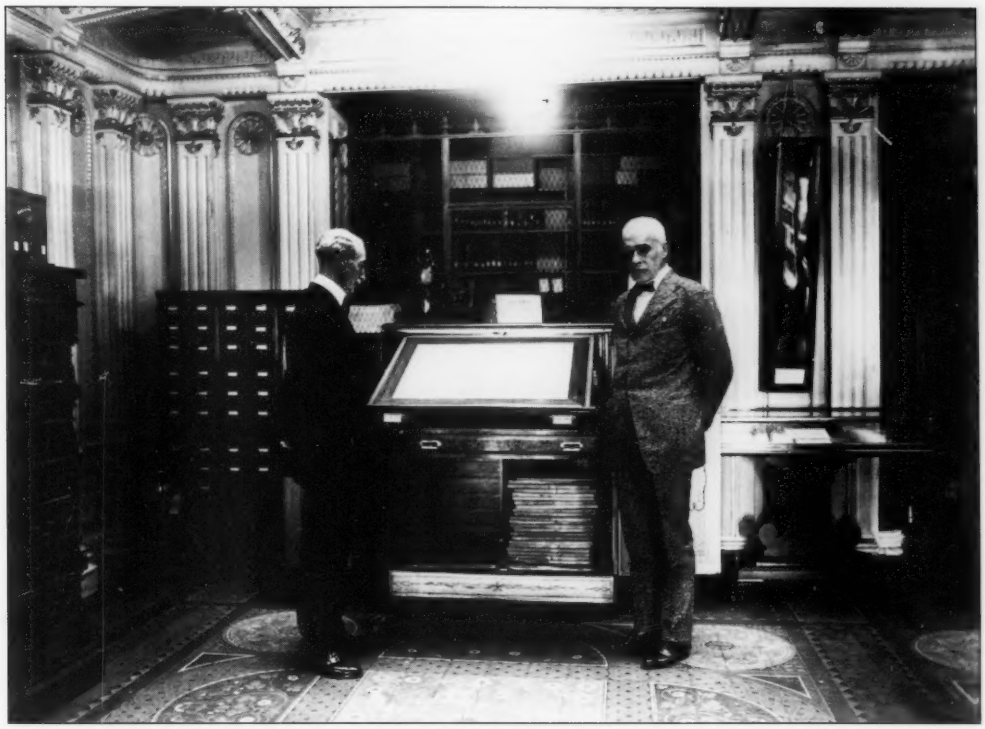


Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress (left), and Gaillard Hunt, U.S. Department of State, examine the original Declaration of Independence at its display in the State Department at the time of its transfer to the Library, Sept. 30, 1921.

The Library and the Declaration

LC Has Long History with Founding Document

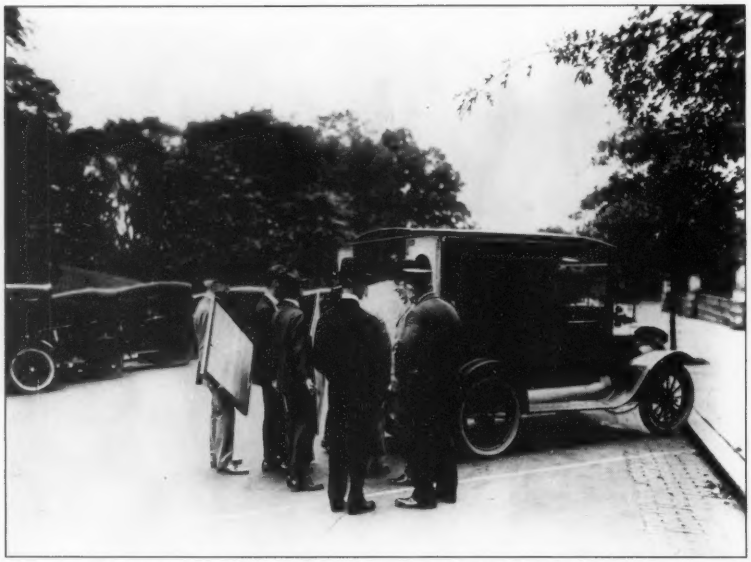
The Library has a long complicated association with the Declaration of Independence. In her July 1 lecture at the Library of Congress about her new book, *American Scripture, Making the Declaration of Independence* (see story on page 268), historian Pauline Maier concentrated on the Library's copy of Thomas Jefferson's rough draft (or as he said "Rough draught") of the Declaration.

This article focuses on the story of the "other" copy of the Declaration of Independence: the final text and original engrossed document bearing the original signatures that was adopted by Congress on the morning of July 4, 1776, and then signed on August 2, 1776, and for several months thereafter. The Library housed this copy from 1921 until 1952, when it was transferred, along with the U.S. Constitution, to the National Archives.

On Sept. 29, 1921, Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam was a happy man. On that day President Warren G. Harding issued an executive order directing the transfer of the original copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States from the State Department to the Library. Part of Putnam's argument for the transfer was that the Library could take better care of the documents than the State Department. Also, there was no National Archives in those days, so the transfer seemed logical. A Library "mail wagon" picked up the documents the next day and they were deposited in the safe in the Librarian's office.

On March 22, 1922, President Harding approved the Library's appropriation for fiscal year 1923, which included $12,000 for "a safe, permanent repository of appropriate design" for what turned out to be a "shrine" for the display of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution in the Library. This appropriation made it clear that Librarian Putnam had more than preservation in mind when he acquired the documents for the Library: while fully "safe-guarded," they also "should be open to inspection to the public at large."

The designer of "the shrine" was Francis H. Bacon, brother of Henry Bacon, the architect of the Lincoln Memorial. It was located on the west side of the second floor (the mezzanine) of the Jefferson Building, "directly opposite the Minerva [mosaic],



The transfer of the Declaration from the State Department to the Library — via mail wagon — on Sept. 30, 1921. Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam stands at center, in fedora.

President Calvin Coolidge and his wife, Grace, attend the dedication on Feb. 28, 1924, of the "Shrine" where the parchment copies of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were protected while in the keeping of the Library of Congress. Visitors were impressed, according to the Librarian's report of 1924, with "the provision for safeguarding the documents from touch and from injurious light, while insuring their complete visibility without formality." Also in attendance at the dedication were the secretary of state, representatives from Congress and Librarian Putnam (left).

and on the axis of the Capitol," in front of a blocked center window that faced the Capitol. The dedication took place on Feb. 28, 1924, in the presence of President Calvin Coolidge and a representative group of Congress members.

What is amazing from today's perspective is that the ceremony took place, according to the 1924 Library of Congress Annual Report, "without a single utterance, save the singing of two stanzas of "America." More than two dozen auxiliary documents about the Revolutionary Era from the Library's Manuscript Division were also displayed, along with "portraits of signers of the Declaration and of the Constitution, with their biographies." Perhaps this auxiliary display was inspired in part by the list of the names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in the stained glass ceiling panels of the second floor South Gallery in the Jefferson Building (today's European Division Reading Room).

The Library was very concerned about the preservation of the documents and took great care with them. Information regarding the treatment and thinking about the physical condition of the Declaration are outlined in the 1949 Annual Report (these details were later reprinted as "The Declaration of Independence: The Story of a Parchment" by Assistant Librarian David C. Mearns) and in Verner W. Clapp's article "The Declaration of Independence: A Case Study in Preservation" in the December 1971 issue of *Special Libraries*. It is difficult to judge the success of the Library's preservation efforts. As Pauline Maier points out in the introduction to her book, preservation was poorly understood earlier in this century, and many of the most progressive techniques of the time seem primitive by today's standards.

There is no doubt, however, that from the 1920s through the 1950s, the Library relished and took full advantage of its role as the possessor and protector of the nation's sacred documents. Two weeks after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were sent by train to Fort Knox, Ky., for safekeeping. On the train trip, the compartments "adjoining and connecting" the sleeping car compartment containing the documents "were occupied by armed Secret

Service agents and Verner W. Clapp," who had recently been promoted to Chief Assistant Librarian. During its stay at Fort Knox, the Declaration was frequently examined "to make certain that no further harm had come to it." When the documents were returned with great fanfare to public display at the Library on Oct. 1, 1944, a Marine Guard of Honor stood beside the Shrine in the Great Hall. The Marines would be relieved in succeeding weeks by Army and Navy Guards of Honor.

As part of the ceremony (and just prior to the playing of the national anthem by the Marine Band), Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish told the Marines: "It is appropriate that these fragile objects which bear so great a weight of meaning to our people, and indeed to all the peoples of the world, should be entrusted to the guard of men who have themselves seen active service in a war against the enemies of everything this Constitution and this Declaration stand for."

In 1943 the Library published *The Declaration of Independence: The Evolution of a Text* by Julian Boyd, librarian of Princeton University and the newly appointed editor of the Jefferson papers, which are held in Library's Manuscript Division. Published as part of the 200th birthday of Thomas Jefferson, the booklet brought together accurate facsimile reproductions of the principal documents "illustrative of the evolution of the ideas and phraseology of the Declaration of Independence." In the Library's 1943 Annual Report, Librarian MacLeish, never shy about venturing an opinion, said that the publication "may prove to be one of the most important single events in the history of the Library. It is a model of what such a work should be and its potential usefulness in increasing American knowledge of a basic American document cannot be overestimated."

In light of the heavy symbolic importance the Library placed on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, it is not surprising that the transfer of the documents to the National Archives was a painful — and drawn out — experience.

At the laying of the cornerstone for the new National Archives Building in 1933, President Herbert Hoover said that the Archives, as home of official

In this Sept. 1944 photo, the Declaration of Independence — recently returned from wartime safekeeping at Fort Knox — is examined by David Mearns, director of the Reference Department; Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress, and Verner Clapp, director of the Acquisitions Department.

government records, would someday house the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Librarian Putnam however, would not hear of such a transfer and neither would his successor, Archibald MacLeish, who served as Librarian from 1939 to 1944. The task fell to Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress from 1945 to 1953.

Aware of the opposition to this action among the Library's senior managers, Evans asked the Joint Committee on the Library to "instruct" (not "authorize") him to transfer the documents, and the committee so instructed him on April 30, 1952. Writing in the LC *Information Bulletin*, Evans underplayed the event, explaining that the decision "was in substance that the routine application of the statutes concerning the records of the U.S. Government and of its predecessors required this action. ... It is naturally an emotional wrench to surrender the custody of the principal documents of American liberty. Logic and law require it, however."

On a sunny Dec. 13, 1952, the "sacred parchments" — carefully encased, crated and placed on mattresses — were carried in an armored Marine Corps personnel carrier down Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues to their new home and "shrine." The vehicle was accompanied by tanks, a motorcycle escort, a color guard, two military bands and four servicemen carrying submachine guns.

The original documents were gone, but in the next decade the bicentenary of the American Revolution brought renewed attention to the Revolutionary era at the Library of Congress. In 1968 Congress approved the Library's plans for a phased bicentennial program and subsequently authorized the addition to the Library's staff of several historians, all specialists in early American history. Many useful publications and projects were undertaken, and the Declaration of Independence received its share of attention. Paul H. Smith, editor of the Library's *Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789*, uncovered new information about the actual signing of the Declaration and presented it in the article "Time and Temperature: Philadelphia, July 4, 1776," in the Oct. 1976 issue of the

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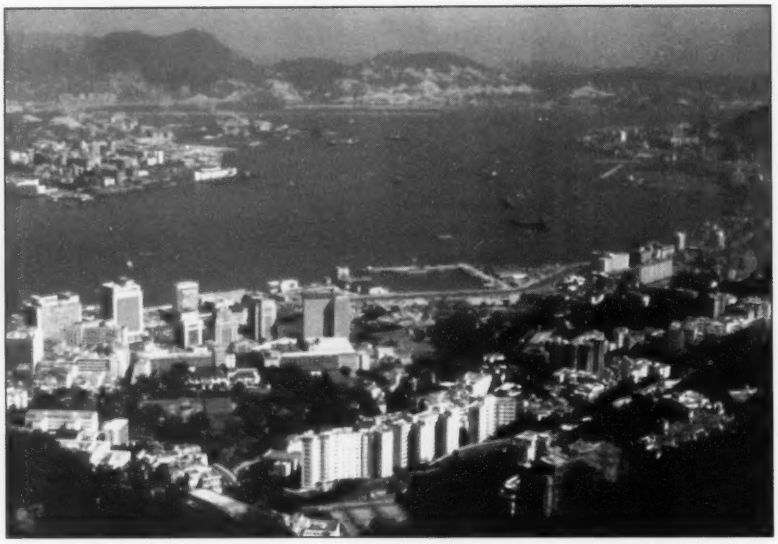

A view of contemporary Hong Kong Island as seen from Victoria Peak.

Hong Kong

From Fishing Village To Financial Center

by Judy Lu Kestell
and Harold Meinheit

Hong Kong is a unique melding of Eastern and Western influences, whose history has made it a meeting point for China and the outside world. In this environment, Hong Kong's Chinese population, more than 95 percent of the former colony's residents, has developed a distinctive culture.

As one of the world's great cities, Hong Kong has many faces. To scholars and journalists, it was long the best place to play "China-watcher." To the business and financial community, Hong Kong remains one of the best places in the world to make money. To artists, writers and filmmakers, the city's colorful history and dramatic beauty have provided inspiration and vivid settings for art, books and movies. To tourists, it is a shopper's paradise with great restaurants and magnificent harbor views.

Hong Kong consists of Hong Kong Island (ceded by China to Britain in 1842), the southern part of the Kowloon Peninsula and Stonecutters Island (ceded in 1860) and the New Territories, which include the mainland area lying to the north and 235 offshore islands. The New Territories were leased from China for 99 years beginning in 1898.

At midnight on June 30, China took the territory back from Great Britain as a "Special Administrative Region" that, the Chinese government has promised, will retain its present economic and social system for the next 50 years.

How did this unique city emerge from a sparsely populated coastal area to become one of the world's most vibrant international centers of commerce? A Library exhibition, "Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center," tries to answer this question by tracing Hong Kong's development from the mid-19th century to the present, through materials from the Library of Congress collections.

Merchants, Men of War and Missionaries, 1840s-1860s

Archaeological evidence of human settlement in the area of modern-day Hong Kong goes back to the fourth millennium B.C., although the identity of these early inhabitants is uncertain. Since the southern expansion of the Qin (221-207 B.C.) and the Han (206 B.C.–A.D. 220) dynasties, there have been Chinese settlements in the Hong Kong region; however, the area was never heavily populated.

When the British started using the excellent harbor on the northern side of Hong Kong Island in the early 1840s, they found more than 3,000 inhabitants in villages and 2,000 fishermen living in their boats in the harbor. The British started referring to the small, hilly, rocky island sheltering the harbor as "Hong Kong," which comes from a local Cantonese dialect and means "fragrant harbor."

The British colony of Hong Kong was born from the clash between two great empires. The ostensible reason for the outbreak of war between China and Great Britain in 1839 was opium, which the British and other Western traders were importing illegally into China.

The roots of the conflict, however, went much deeper, growing out of two fundamentally different concepts of international relations and trade. In the face of Western pressures to open

A typical bustling day on one of Hong Kong's "ladder streets"; *The Territory of Hong Kong* (Hong Kong Survey and Mapping Office, Building and Lands Department, 1993) shows the complete territory in detail.

China to trade, the Qing dynasty (1644–1911) clung to the old tributary system and struggled to keep the West at bay. Resenting the Qing dynasty's disdain of foreigners, Britain and other Western traders demanded equal treatment and commercial access to the Chinese market.

Britain acquired Hong Kong Island under the Treaty of Nanking (Nanjing) in 1842 at the end of its first war with China. Friction between China and the West, however, increased in 1850 when a new emperor assumed the throne in Beijing, and it became clear the treaties were not being observed. Another war, fought between 1856 and 1860, resulted in Britain's obtaining the tip of the Kowloon Peninsula (on the mainland across the harbor from Hong Kong Island) and Stonecutters Island.

The commercial development of Hong Kong's fine natural harbor, which had attracted the British in the first place, began slowly, and Hong Kong lagged behind Shanghai as a port. With the discovery of gold in California in 1849, however, Hong Kong became a center for Chinese emigration from Guangdong Province to the United States, helping to build Hong Kong's economy, as many of the Chinese who went to California returned with their new-found riches.

The entrance to the Peninsula Hotel, one of the former colony's most luxurious accommodations.

Coming of Age, 1870s–1900

By the last quarter of the 19th century, Hong Kong had developed as a British Crown Colony. The 1880s and 1890s were the heyday of colonialism in Asia, and colonial society in Hong Kong reflected the temper of the times. During this period, Hong Kong became an increasingly popular destination for western travelers in Asia. In 1879 Ulysses S. Grant visited Hong Kong during his two-year voyage around the world. Grant's official welcome united the former commander of the Union army with Col. John Mosby, the former Confederate guerrilla leader (who was representing the United States in Hong Kong), and Hong Kong Gov. Sir John Pope-Hennessy, in full imperial regalia. Hong Kong's elite society loved it.

Hong Kong is both a key business center and a popular tourist destination. Another panoramic view of Hong Kong from Victoria Peak reflects the lively nature of the metropolis at night; a brilliantly illuminated floating restaurant sets sail on a sunset cruise.

One of the key developments of the 1890s was the construction of the Peak Tramway, an inclined-rail carrier that provided easy access to the top of Victoria Peak, the hill that dominates Hong Kong Island. Before the tram, the only way up was by sedan chair, carried by footmen. With easier access, "the Peak" became the most prestigious residential area of the colony, remaining so to this day. Hong Kong also gained in importance to the United States Navy when Adm. George Dewey used Mirs Bay, located on the eastern shores of the New Territories, as a staging area for his fleet during the Spanish-American War of 1898.

The Chinese Community: 1870s and Onward

While British colonial society was flowering, important developments were taking place in the Chinese community. One of the most significant was the establishment of the Tung Wah Hospital in 1872. Beyond running a hospital for local Chinese, Tung Wah's Board of Governors soon started to play a broader leadership role in the Chinese community and functioned as an effective link to the British administration.

In 1887 the Hong Kong College of Medicine opened, and it provided an opportunity for the Chinese to obtain medical degrees. It also paved the way for another landmark event — the opening of the University of Hong Kong in 1912. A second major university, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, opened in 1963.

Revolution and War in Asia, 1900-1949

The first half of the 20th century in Asia saw the birth of the Chinese revolution, growing anticolonial movements in the Southeast, and the rise of Japanese militarism, leading to the outbreak of World War II on the continent. Although not a major player, Hong Kong participated in the drama.

During the 1920s, increasing turmoil in China spread to Hong Kong in the form of a general strike in 1925 and a boycott of British goods that lasted until the fall of 1926. Hong Kong also provided a temporary base for Vietnamese revolutionaries such as Ho Chi Minh in early 1930.

By 1937, the Sino-Japanese War broke out and thousands of Chinese fled to Hong Kong, swelling the population to more than 1.6 million four years later. In December 1941, as it attacked Pearl Harbor, Japan attacked and occupied Hong Kong. Many citizens of the colony were imprisoned, and most had limited access to food and other resources. By the time the British returned at war's end in August 1945, the population had been reduced to approximately 600,000 residents.

The Birth of Modern Hong Kong: 1950s-1980s

During the 1950s, Hong Kong began its transformation to the modern economic success story of today. An influx of capital and entrepreneurial talent from Shanghai in the late 1940s and the Korean War trade embargo of China in 1950 spurred the colony's industrial development.

The 1950s also saw a worsening of Hong Kong's most serious social problem, a severe housing shortage caused by the influx of refugees fleeing the mainland. The development of public

A "floating city" of barges and homes reflects the seafaring nature of Hong Kong; a lonely Chinese junk sails off into the distance.

housing has been one of the Hong Kong government's major programs since that period, and today the squatter areas have largely disappeared.

With the formation of the People's Republic of China in 1949, much of the West was cut off from contact with the communist country. Diplomats, scholars and journalists based in Hong Kong used access to China's press, radio broadcasts, refugees and local contacts in the arcane art of "China-watching." For its part, China could maintain some contacts with the West through its unofficial representatives in Hong Kong at the New China (Xinhua) News Agency and the Bank of China.

Hong Kong was not isolated from Chinese domestic politics, however, especially during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-76. The Chinese government incited citizens of Hong Kong to protest British rule. The result was large-scale demonstrations against the colonial government, sometimes violent, during the spring and summer of 1967. The police handled the eruptions with firmness but restraint. Moreover, China did not force a confrontation with Britain and order was restored by that fall.

With President Richard Nixon's trip to China in 1972 and the establishment of full U.S. diplomatic relations with Beijing in 1979, Hong Kong's role as a "China-watching" post declined. However, its economic role grew dramatically as Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms began to take hold in the early 1980s.

Modern Culture

As Hong Kong grew into an international financial center, its culture became a mixture of the East and the West. The local Chinese absorbed elements of Western art, fashion, food, music, entertainment, and consumer behavior, thus creating a colorful, modern culture unique in Asia.

Traditional Chinese arts have comfortably coexisted with Western-influenced ones. Writers in the local Chinese community have clung to the ancient history of China as a source of literary inspiration. Moreover, traditional Chinese opera, which portrays heroes and heroines from the ancient Chinese dynasties, continues to attract a large local Cantonese audience.

Although martial arts did not originate in Hong Kong, they became popular with large numbers of Chinese and were featured in novels and films. Hong Kong's vibrant film industry produces large numbers of movies that are popular there and in many overseas Chinese communities.

Hong Kong and China: 'One Country, Two Systems'

For much of the 20th century, Hong Kong has been "a borrowed place living on borrowed time." Worry about the future surfaced again in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when Hong Kong's business community started to express unease about the New Territories lease, set to expire in 1997.

Legally, commercial leases in the New Territories could not be extended beyond June 30, 1997. As the date approached, therefore, shorter and shorter leases would be necessary, providing less time for investors to realize profits. This would, many feared, begin to damage investor confidence in Hong Kong.

Under pressure from the business community, during Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to Beijing in 1982, Britain raised the issue of extending the New Territories lease. China, however, had long taken the position that all the 19th century treaties and agreements on Hong Kong were "unequal" and as such were not binding. Extending the New Territories lease was not an option, and Britain's discussions with China became serious negotiations over the terms of Hong Kong's return to China. These negotiations concluded in 1984 with the signing of the Joint Declaration. Drafting of the Basic Law was completed in 1990, setting the stage for the formal transformation of Hong Kong into a Special Administrative Region of China on July 1, 1997.

Ms. Kestell is an area specialist in the Asian Division and Mr. Meinheit is a consultant on the Hong Kong exhibit.

"Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center" is on view through November in the first- floor foyer of the Madison Building, Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is sponsored by the Library's Asian Division and is made possible by a generous gift from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Washington, D.C.

Herman Leonard

Ella Fitzgerald in performance at the peak of her 50-year vocal career.

'First Lady of Song'

LC Collection Tells Ella Fitzgerald Story

Most every performer has a story about how he or she made it big, but few can match the tale of the late Ella Fitzgerald (1917-1996). Recognized as the best female jazz vocalist of the century as well as a pioneer in the area of jazz, Fitzgerald was respected worldwide by musicians and audiences alike.

Ironically, her earliest passion was not singing but dancing. Though she had participated in her school's musical and glee club, Ella once wrote, "I never considered myself a singer. My real ambition was to dance."

Like the rest of Harlem during the late 1920s, Fitzgerald was caught up in a dance craze that had people Lindy Hopping in ballrooms such as the Savoy. At home, Ella would imitate dancers such as Earl "Snakehips" Tucker, and during her lunch hours in junior high school, she and her friends would sneak into the theater to watch the shows.

But one day, the 15 year-old Ella entered the Apollo Theatre's amateur night after drawing the short straw in a contest with two other friends to decide who among them would perform. Naturally, she was going to dance. "There I was, nervous as can be, only 15 years old with the skinniest legs you've ever seen — and I froze; got cold feet. The man in charge said that I had better do something up there, so I said I wanted to sing instead. The audience was laughing," she wrote.

Ella decided to sing a song from an album of one of her favorite performers, Connee Boswell, called "The Object of My Affection." Amazingly enough, the notoriously harsh audience at the Apollo stopped laughing, and soon began clapping for more. "Three encores later, the $25 prize was mine," wrote Fitzgerald. And so, her illustrious career began.

Dubbed the "First Lady of Song," Fitzgerald has clearly earned her title, recording about 70 long playing albums and more than 2,000 different songs on the gramophone format. She worked with fellow legendary artists such as Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, Sarah Vaughan, Dizzy Gillespie and Benny Goodman and even performed in a few movies, including "Ride 'Em Cowboy" starring Abbott and Costello.

Amid the long list of honors Fitzgerald has received are the

Ella Fitzgerald and Dizzy Gillespie (right) in a ca. 1947 photo from the William Gottlieb Collection in the Music Division.

Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Medal of Honor Award; 13 Grammy awards; the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences' Lifetime Achievement Award; the Pied Piper Award; the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' highest honor; the George and Ira Gershwin Award for Outstanding Achievement; the National Medal of Art awarded by the former president, Ronald Reagan; more than a dozen honorary doctorates and the first Society of Singers Lifetime Achievement Award, named "Ella" in her honor.

On April 24, 1997, the Ella Fitzgerald Collection was officially donated to the Library after being on deposit since 1996. The collection consists of Fitzgerald's entire music library and contains items such as photographs and videotapes. Her music consists of more than 10,000 pages of scores, leadsheets and individual musicians parts for more than 1,000 ensemble and symphony orchestra arrangements.

The collection will serve various purposes, says Music Division Chief Jon Newsom. As well as being available to the public for study, the Library hopes to feature some of the collection in its own concerts. With permission from the Fitzgerald estate, music already has been loaned for performance, an opportunity that artists Frank Sinatra Jr. and Vic Damone have taken. "[Fitzgerald] and other artists are realizing that [the Library and the Smithsonian Institution] have a vigorous program that does not stop with putting [collections] on the shelf or putting it in a case or even letting someone see it if they come in, but really getting it out and making the work a part of a lively perpetuation of their art," Mr. Newsom said.

In a collaborative effort, the Smithsonian and the Library announced their Fitzgerald donations together in April and will exchange copies of their collections. The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History has also received a donation of objects from the Fitzgerald estate such as her numerous awards and the glass Fitzgerald shattered in the "Is it live or is it Memorex?" commercial.

Fitzgerald was born in Newport News, Va., on April 25, 1917, but spent most of her childhood in Yonkers, N.Y., where she moved shortly after her father died. Struggling to stay afloat financially, Ella and her mother moved to the suburb just up the Hudson River from the Bronx, to live with her aunt.

While growing up, Ella took various jobs to help the family finances. She took "numbers" for a gangster-run lottery numbers game, a popular form of illegal gambling in New York, and also worked for prostitutes as a lookout for the police. "Oh yes, I had a very interesting young life," Fitzgerald said in *Ella: The Life and Times of Ella Fitzgerald*, by Sid Colin.

Living not far from Harlem, Ella experienced its unique culture firsthand. Harlem drew the biggest names in jazz. In her younger years, Ella used to wait on Harlem's street corners with her friends to get autographs from famous jazz artists such as Billie Holiday and Chick Webb, with whom she would later perform. Jazz music became more popular and available as artists such as Duke Ellington broadcast live from Harlem's Cotton Club and recorded numerous records.

Harlem also offered Fitzgerald the opportunities she needed to begin her career. After winning amateur night at the Apollo, she continued singing on Harlem's amateur night circuit, catching the attention of local musicians.

Finally, around 1935, some musicians arranged an audition for her with the drummer Chick Webb that changed her life and career. Webb, whose band played regularly at the Savoy Ballroom, had always avoided using female vocalists, but he was impressed by Fitzgerald and took her under his tutelage. "Some of the fellas hid me in his dressing room and forced him to listen to me," wrote Ella.

Webb was an excellent teacher and eventually became Fitzgerald's legal guardian a few years after her mother died in 1934. He provided Ella with the essential guidance that allowed her to succeed. Fitzgerald wrote, "When I wanted things to happen too fast, Chick would say, 'Never want to be anything that goes up too fast, because you come down the same way.'"

Together Fitzgerald, Webb and his band toured the country and recorded and collaborated on songs, including her million-seller, "A-Tisket, A-Tasket."

Though Fitzgerald took over the leadership of the band after Webb died in 1939, World War II and the draft finally dismembered the group. Fitzgerald soon set out on a solo career performing and recording, and eventually met impresario Norman Granz, who became her personal manager. Fitzgerald worked closely with Granz and sang on international tours with his band, Jazz at the Philharmonic. After years of working with Fitzgerald, Granz wrested her contract from the Decca recording label and signed the singer to his own label, Verve, and later, Pablo. Under his management, Ella gained more musical freedom, performing and recording the types of songs she enjoyed most.

On her famous "songbook" series with Granz, Fitzgerald sang the songs of Americans such as Duke Ellington, Cole Porter and George and Ira Gershwin. Arranged by Nelson Riddle, Billy Strayhorn and Ellington, among others, the "songbooks" became popular with both jazz and non-jazz listeners and are considered classic interpretations of the material.

Apart from her 50-year musical career, Ella married jazz bassist Ray Brown, with whom she adopted a son.

Ella had a voice that was rare in its endurance and quality. Yet while her voice barely aged, diabetes weakened her eyesight and slowed her schedule in later years. She died at the age of 79 on June 15, 1996.

Fitzgerald's style of singing heavily influenced ensuing generations of singers. She demonstrated an extraordinarily wide vocal range of 2-1/2 octaves, a special sense of rhythm and pitch and an unparalleled ability for mimicry and "scat" singing.

Bing Crosby said it all: "Man, woman or child, Ella is the best."

— Hannah Wong

Ms. Wong is an intern in the Public Affairs Office.

ALA

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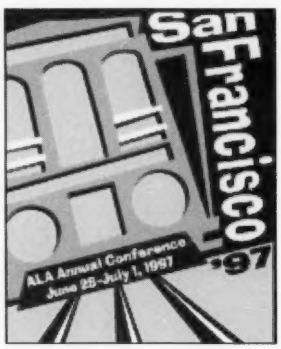
A leader from another world — entertainment — also received the same honor. Oprah Winfrey, whose eponymous television show has promoted the importance of reading through its "Book Club," was cited for "single-handedly expanding the size of the reading public," according to Ms. Somerville. Ms. Winfrey was unable to attend, as she was working on the film of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

Another person that many librarians were happy to honor was Bruce Ennis, a partner in the Washington law firm of Jenner & Block. Mr. Ennis received the Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor Award for his assistance in litigating the *ALA vs. Reno* and *Reno vs. ACLU* cases, which challenged the Communications Decency Act, which had just been struck down by a unanimous Supreme Court on June 26. The act was part of the Telecommunications Act, signed in the Main Reading Room on Feb. 8, 1996.

The session's keynote address was delivered by *Parade* magazine Editor Walter Anderson. "Kids can't wait," he said, "for library services," a theme Ms. Somerville had championed during her ALA presidency.

Elsewhere during the convention, LC staffers made presentations. For example, Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services, and John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, held a Saturday afternoon session on how libraries across the country could participate in LC's celebration of its bicentenary in 2000, while at



the same time highlighting the importance of all libraries in the life of their local communities.

"Planning and partnerships with other libraries" will be vital to a successful bicentennial celebration," said Mr. Tabb to an audience in the San Francisco Marriott. "How can we use the Library of Congress's bicentennial to highlight not just LC but all our nation's libraries?" he asked. A panel of library folk responded.

For example, Laurie Stackpole, chief librarian of the Naval Research Laboratory in Maryland, suggested that LC's bicentennial highlight the nation's other federal libraries as well — the 2,500 institutions that range from presidential libraries, to academic libraries, to the small military base libraries around the world. Many of these libraries have recently "been outsourced, downsized or even eliminated," she said. She suggested that the bicentennial effort focus on their often unique collections.

She also suggested that the LC *Information Bulletin* focus on "treasures" of other libraries, as LC is doing with its "American Treasures" exhibition.

Bridget Lamont, director of the Illinois State Library, would like to see LC highlight how its services affect users in state and local libraries. Another panelist, Jacqueline Mancall, a professor at Drexel University, who was representing the American Association of School Libraries, noted how the bicentenary "provides a unique opportunity for AASL to forge a partnership" with LC. "LC is already bringing libraries together with its digital library initiative," she said.

One way in which the Library is doing just that is with the Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition, which in April made awards to 10 institutions nationwide (see LC *Information Bulletin*, June 9, 1997) to digitize their important American collections and make them part of LC's American Memory on-line collections.

The competition will run for two more years, and in an effort to encourage as wide participation as possible, Bonnie Magness-Gardiner of the Library offered two workshops in the Moscone Center as well as individualized assistance during the convention. Guidelines for the competition will be issued soon, with a deadline for applications of Nov. 3. Information about the competition is available at http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/award/.

And in a show of support, Peggy Barber, associate executive director of the American Library Association, made a final comment during the bicentennial session, saying, "Thank you for inviting us to your birthday party. I am here to RSVP. We will be there."

— Guy Lamolinara

Egyptian Dignitaries

Speaker Srour, Secretary General Mahran Visit LC

The speaker of the Egyptian Parliament, Fathi Srour, accompanied by the Secretary General and former Counsellor of State Sami Mahran, visited the Library on July 7.

They met in the Librarian's office with Dr. Billington and senior staff from the Law Library, the Near East Section the Overseas Operations Division and the Congressional Research Service. The two guests were greeted by Rubens Medina, the Law Librarian, and George N. Sfeir, the senior legal specialist in charge of the Arab jurisdictions at the Law Library. Mr. Medina and Mr. Sfeir were in Cairo in May, where they met with Mr. Srour and Mr. Mahran for a briefing of Egyptian parliamentarians and government officials on the operations of the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), which Egypt is expected to join later this year.

GLIN is a project administered by LC's Law Library that has established a database for the sharing of legal information of countries around the world over the Internet.

Dr. Billington briefed the guests on the Library's electronic resources and the importance to the Library of its overseas office in Cairo, which handles acquisitions from the Arab countries and other nations in the area. Mr. Srour, who is a professor of law and an author of several constitutional law treatises available at the Law Library, told Dr. Billington about the steps Egypt is taking to transform its economy and the role the Egyptian Parliament is playing in the corresponding transformation of the law. While at the Law Library, Mr. Srour obtained the texts of recent Supreme Court decisions as well as recent works on human rights, investment guarantees, antitrust legislation, and other economic subjects which the Egyptian Parliament is facing.

To facilitate the legislative reform process and give support to decision makers, the Egyptian government recently embarked on an ambitious program of building a digital information system. The hub of this activity is the Information and Decision Support Center, which will probably provide considerable support for Egypt's future participation in GLIN.

Mr. Srour told Dr. Billington that he looked forward to more cooperation between the Egyptian Parliament and the Library of Congress.

— George N. Sfeir

Mr. Sfeir is senior legal specialist of the Directorate of Legal Research of the Law Library.

Declaration

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Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress (ceased publication in 1983).

Another study of the Declaration, *The John Dunlap Broadside: The First Printing of the Declaration of Independence* by Frederick R. Goff, honorary consultant in early printed books and former chief of the Rare Book Division, was published by the Library in 1976. The book presents the results of a remarkable survey of the surviving first printed copies of the Declaration. Seventeen of the surviving 21 copies were brought together at the Library for Dr. Goff's examination in May 1975.

In our own time, the Library has deservedly focused its attention on the "original Rough draught" of the Declaration, a four-page document in Jefferson's own hand, with changes made by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and others. The draft was transferred to the Library in 1903 from the State Department as part of the Thomas Jefferson Papers. The four pages of the document have been digitized and can be studied in the Library's on-line exhibition "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" (http://lcweb.loc.gov/treasures/). It also is presented in the on-line version of an earlier exhibition, "Declaring Independence: Drafting the Documents (http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/declara/declara1.html.) The Library's 25,000-item collection of Jefferson Papers will be digitized by the end of the year 2000, when the Library marks its bicentenary.

Plans also are being made for publication of a revised edition of Julian Boyd's *The Declaration of Independence: The Evolution of the Text*. A new edition is needed because of the later discovery by Boyd of a fragment of the composition draft in Jefferson's hand. The fragment, which was publicly exhibited for the first time during the July 4 holiday in 1995, can be seen in the "Declaring Independence" on-line exhibit.

Thus this latest relationship between the Library and the Declaration of Independence focuses more on access and technology than on physical possession or reflected patriotic glory. Somehow it is appropriate, if a little sad, that when the Jefferson Building recently reopened to the public, the "shrine" had been moved to storage.

— John Y. Cole

John Y. Cole is director of the Center for the Book.

Maier

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ing the story," she said, noting that the official signed copy of the Declaration was not published until 1777, after the American victories at Trenton and Princeton gave the rebellion some chance of success.

"The drafters," she concluded, "were not giants who will never come again. These were ordinary men doing their best. To say we cannot come up to their standard is wrong. We can and we must."

— John Martin

Mr. Martin is a copyright examiner in the Copyright Office.

News from the Center for the Book

'Building a Nation of Readers' Brochure Available

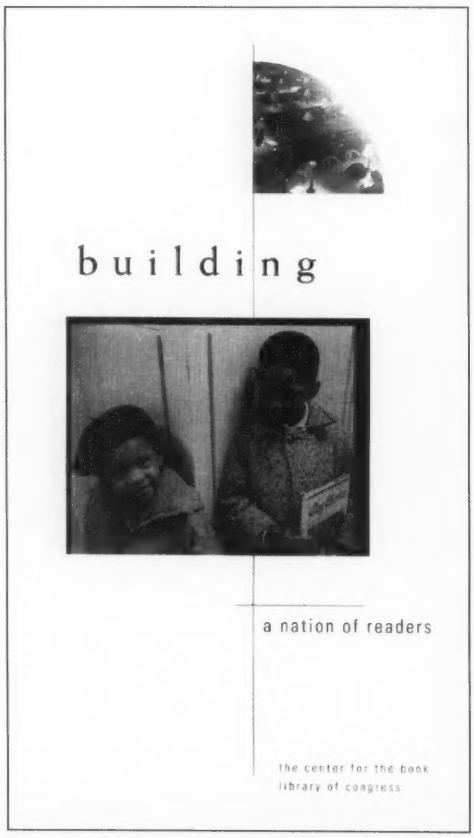
A six-page brochure has just been published that describes how individuals, families, schools, libraries, civic and educational organizations, and businesses can participate in "Building a Nation of Readers," the Center for the Book's national reading promotion campaign for 1997-2000.

The brochure features Tara Holland, Miss America 1997, the official campaign spokesperson, and photographs from *Library: The Drama Within,* by Diane Asséo Griliches, a book of photographs celebrating libraries and their patrons published in 1996 by the University of New Mexico Press in association with the Center for the Book.

"This activist theme reminds Americans of the importance of reading to individuals and to the nation," said John Y. Cole, the center's director. "It is both a reminder and a goal for where we want the nation to be in the year 2000. The Library of Congress invites others to join us in "building a nation of readers" by organizing and supporting reading promotion projects that benefit all age groups."

The brochure was funded in part by Pizza Hut Inc., sponsor of the BOOK-IT! National Reading Incentive Program in the nation's elementary schools, and one of the Center for the Book's national reading promotion partners.

Copies are available from the Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, DC 20540-4920, phone (202) 707-5221, e-mail: pwhi@loc.gov and from the BOOK-IT Program, phone (800) 426-6548 or e-mail: read@bookitprogram.com.



The Center for the Book was established by law in 1977 to stimulate public interest in books, reading and libraries. For further information, visit the center on the World Wide Web at: http://lcweb.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/.

■ **Minnesota Celebrates Its Books and Writers.** Program Specialist Anne Boni represented the Center for the Book on April 11 and 12 in St. Paul at the ninth annual Minnesota Book Awards, sponsored by the Minnesota Center for the Book. The awards program, held on April 11 at the Minnesota History Center, was videotaped and broadcast in May on "Northern Lights: A Look at Minnesota Books and Writers" on Metro Cable Network/Channel 6. Readings by 14 of the nominated writers were presented by Minnesota Literature and the Minnesota Center for the Book at a special program, "A Celebration of Minnesota Writers IV," held at the History Center on April 12.

The Minnesota Center for the Book, a program of Metronet, promotes "books, reading, libraries and a literate, creative culture for all Minnesotans." Its priorities are audience development, advocacy and networking, and education and assistance. In addition to sponsoring the annual Minnesota Book Awards program, it sponsors the Minnesota Center for the Book Web site "a rich mix of in-depth information about publishing, Minnesota writing, libraries, literary awards and events"; produces and distributes the weekly "Northern Lights" cable television show about writing and publishing in Minnesota; sponsors the "Everybody Wins" reading promotion program that features reading partnerships between adult volunteers and elementary school students; and, in partnership with FORECAST Public Art and the Minnesota Chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, sponsors the Alphabet Project.

Mary Tracey is executive director of Metronet and the Minnesota Center for the Book. For information, contact the Minnesota Center for the Book, Suite 116, 2324 University Ave. West, St. Paul, MN 55115, phone (612) 646-0475, fax (612) 646-0657, or visit its Web site at http://www.metronet.lib.mn.us/cfb/.

■ **New Mexico Center for the Book Launched.** Program Officer Maurvene D. Williams represented the Center for the Book on April 8-10, in Santa Fe in activities that introduced the New Mexico Center for the Book to the state library community. At an April 9 program at the annual meeting of the New Mexico Library Association, Ms. Williams described the Center for the Book concept and how the New Mexico state center could help make books and reading a more visible part of New Mexico's educational and cultural life. Her comments emphasized ways in which the LC center helps its state affiliates in promoting literacy and highlighting each state's indi-

Center for the Book Program Officer Maurvene Williams (right) with Susie Sonflieth of the Santa Fe Public Library and Marsie Cate, the New Mexico Center for the Book's first president, at the annual meeting of the New Mexico Library Association on April 9.

vidual literary heritage. She also participated on April 10 at the Governor's Mansion in a ceremony at which New Mexico first lady Dee Johnson presented certificates to the 20 New Mexico winners of the Center for the Book's "Letters About Literature" essay contest for young people.

Literacy advocate Marsie Cate is the New Mexico Center for the Book's first president. Ann Racuya-Robbins is vice president, Marianne O'Shaughnessy is the secretary, and Desiree Mays serves as treasurer. The center's purpose is to promote books, reading and literacy throughout the state by bringing together people "who believe that books ought to be a fundamental part of every home, family, and individual life." Its quarterly newsletter, *New Mexico Center for the Book News*, describes its activities and lists book and literacy events throughout New Mexico. For information, contact the New Mexico Center for the Book, 3922 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87505, telephone (505) 983-1516 or fax (505) 983-1391.

■ **Arizona Presents Parnassus Award to Daniel Boorstin.** Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole participated on April 6 in Phoenix in the Arizona Center for the Book's second annual Parnassus Awards Tea, which honors individuals and organizations "whose contributions to books, reading, libraries, and literacy have made a difference to Arizona." This year's individual awards went to Daniel J. Boorstin, who was honored for his creation of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in 1977, and to Jack E. Brown, who was honored for his contributions to Reading Is Fundamental and to the Friends of the Phoenix Public Library. The organization award went to OASIS (Older Adult Service and Information System), an intergenerational tutoring program in Scottsdale. Also honored were five Arizona students who were state or national winners in the center's Letters About Literature contest, which in 1996-1997 was cosponsored by *READ* magazine and the LC Center for the Book. Pulitzer prize-winning author N. Scott Momaday was the keynote speaker.

ARIZONA CENTER FOR THE BOOK

In his prepared remarks, Dr. Boorstin talked about the importance of reading in the information age, calling reading "the most important antidote to the temptation to make learning passive." Reading, he said, makes "learning an act of creation." John Cole also introduced Ruth Boorstin and acknowledged the special contribution she has made through the years to the Center for the Book.

Established in 1988, the Arizona Center for the Book works to stimulate public interest throughout the state in books, reading, libraries and literacy. It is a nonprofit organization headed by a board of directors and includes public officials, educators, authors, publishers, book sellers, librarians and members of the public. Major activities include "Books & Co.," an Arizona public television program, and "Feast for the Mind," monthly luncheons that provide guests with an opportunity to meet authors and others who share their love of reading. It also publishes *Bookbound*, a quarterly newsletter. One of the Arizona center's recent publications is a 20-page pamphlet "Reading in Company: Starting a Reading Group" by board member Beth Luey, who is director of the Scholarly Publishing Program at Arizona State University and the author of several books on publishing.

For information about the Arizona Center for the Book and its activities, contact Executive Director Kathy Alikhan, 1242 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004-1887, telephone (602) 257-0335, ext. 26, fax (602) 257-0392.

■ **Correction:** The captions for the Center for the Book story in July should have read: "John Cole with (from left) Kathy Alikhan of the Arizona Center and Heather Cameron and Sandy Dolnick of Friends of Libraries USA" (page 258); and "Marsie Cate of New Mexico (left) and Pat Morris of New Jersey look at some of the reading promotion materials on display" (page 259).

A New Class

LC Specialist Develops Law Classification

Six years of negotiations within the Library and with outside libraries have produced two new classification schemes, giving libraries up-to-date tools for organizing and accessing materials relating to the law of nations and international relations.

For 87 years, from 1910 to this May 1, materials relating to these two subjects were grouped together under one general political science classification, called international law (JX). On May 1, the old JX classification was jettisoned and replaced by two new classifications, one for the law of nations (KZ) and a separate one for international relations (JZ).

The Library of Congress does not have the resources to reclassify all of its old JX materials—some 80,000 titles—but all new acquisitions are being classified according to the new schedules. Law schools at Yale, the University of California at Berkeley, Vanderbilt, Cornell, New York University and elsewhere are using the new LC schedules to reclassify their collections.

At a June 11 reception celebrating completion of this classification project begun in 1991, Law Librarian Rubens Medina said: "What [this] means to all of us involved in foreign and international law research is that, finally, significant items such as the decisions of the International Court of Justice, the foreign official gazettes and the constitutions of the world are placed in the Class K: Law. The anomaly that this type of material was housed in the general collections reflected the philosophy of the time, as the Library of Congress classification schedule was first created in the beginning of this century."

Mr. Medina noted that the collections classification work marks a "major accomplishment" of the Cataloging Policy and Support Office (CPSO) and the "dogged determination" of law classification specialist Jolande Goldberg, who has devoted her 30-year LC career to developing a Class K schedule and subject headings for law materials. Only one law category, theocratic law (KB), remains to be finished.

"In an exemplary way, Jolande has all along in the creation of Class K worked closely with us in the Law Library to ensure that her product would be just as useful as a reference tool as a working manual for the catalogers," Mr. Medina said.

Ms. Goldberg also led the cooperative effort to create the new KZ and JZ classes, practicing some "shuttle diplomacy" to achieve consensus among LC catalogers, reference librarians and Law Library staff, as well as outside law libraries and other research institutions that rely on LC classifications and subject headings to organize and access their materials.

Erica Wissolik

Law classification specialist Jolande Goldberg, who has devoted her 30-year LC career to developing a Class K schedule and subject headings for law materials.

In 1991, as Ms. Goldberg worked on her massive Class K project, she followed up on previous Subject Cataloging Division and Law Library discussions, dating to the early-1970s, about revising the JX schedule. She proposed pulling law-related materials out of the old JX international law / international relations classification and putting them into their own law subclass (KZ).

The alternative, she said, would be to revise the JX schedule with no attempt to separate "international relations" material, since from inception of JX, it was a subordinate set of "international law."

Either option had widespread ramifications, not only for LC but also for other libraries. At about the same time, during the early 1990s, political scientists were preparing a summary of Class J (political science) materials. "There was a growing suspicion that LC may be choosing to class works in the history classes (D-E-F) instead of political science," Ms. Goldberg said.

She explained that her proposed revision meant, for anyone reclassifying their collections, "a lot of material coming out of the JX collections. ... These are old and very large collections. Every research library has a very large JX collection."

To establish the rationale for change, Ms. Goldberg turned to LC's classification history to see how accurately LC's classification system (based on century-old policies) reflected 20th century developments in political science. Preparing a paper in 1992, Ms. Goldberg drew on LC histories as well as on her own shelflist and collection reviews. She noted that the first classification schedule to be published, in 1901, was for LC's most extensive collection, U.S. history and geography (Classes E-F), followed by history of the old world (Class D), and in 1910 by political science classes (J to JX).

In scope, these reflected the turn-of-the-century philosophy of learned men, including Librarians John Russell Young (1897-1899) and Herbert Putnam (1899-1939), who, Ms. Goldberg said, believed that history included a broad spectrum of subject matter. For example, Ms. Goldberg said, U.S. history Classes E-F "in-

cluded boundary questions and treaties, both relating to the narrower subject of a state's territory and sovereignty; the recorded manifestations of U.S. westward expansion and territorial dominance over the Indian territories; works dealing with war and peace and the peace treaties as well; a whole regional development leading eventually to the formation of the Organization of American States, a subject belonging by definition to international law; and geography."

Said Ms. Goldberg: "Legal history was never recognized as a discipline per se but formed part of general history. Therefore, eminent historic-legal sources were classed in Class D.

In turn, "Classes J (political science) had absorbed official gazettes (a primary source of the law), legislative papers and texts of constitutions of the world together with constitutional history. In accord with the concept of the time and development of the science, international law was welded together with international relations; the schedule instructed the cataloger, in case of doubt, to prefer Classes D-F," Ms. Goldberg said in her paper.

The Law Library's Mark Strattner, legal collection development specialist, said the legal community "was never truly happy" with this traditional classification scheme. However, he said, because there was no classification system at all for legal materials 50 years ago, law librarians thought it was important to develop the Class K (law) system for countries of the world first and then a subclass (KZ) for law of nations.

Events after World War II made it ever more pressing to update the classification system. "The JX classification system became severely outdated with the changes in the law of nations over the last 50 years," Mr. Strattner said. "The law of the sea was nothing as complicated as it is now, and new bodies of law, such as the law of outer space and international regimes [defined by Ms. Goldberg as 'a treaty-based structure that contains intergovernmental organizations and subordinate administrative bodies, all of which have rule-making powers and the capability of creating secondary regimes']—such as the United Nations and the European Union—have developed during the past 50 years."

"I think the law of nations is one of the most important legal areas now, as a result of a shrinking world and the interdependence of the world's nations on one another for trade and economies, the environment, which knows no national boundaries, and natural resources," Mr. Strattner said.

Political science specialist Paul Baker of the Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) Division concurred that changes during the past 50 years also made it necessary to create a specific JZ class for international relations materials. "So much changed after World War II, not only national boundaries. Earlier, international relations was looked at as a phase of political science, but after World War II it developed into an independent discipline of study. ... Revision was definitely necessary."

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Mark Strattner
Legal Collection Development Specialist

Seeking Consensus

Though there was longtime support in the legal community for the classification change, the challenge was to reconcile differences between the law and political science camps and not afflict the history collections. So there followed five years of diplomatic negotiations and meetings inside and outside the Library to promote the ideas and solicit support through the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and other law library constituencies, the American Library Association (ALA), the Research Libraries Group (RLG), the American Society for Information Science (ASIS), and other groups.

One of the first things Goldberg did at LC on the international law project was to decide on a thorough shelflist review of all JX holdings to see just how many titles would fall into a new class for law materials and how many fit logically into a political science class just for international relations. "We found that, to our surprise, about 50 percent was law and 50 percent was political science, i.e., international relations," Ms. Goldberg said.

In early 1994, the Advisory Committee on LC Foreign and International Law Classification and AALL constituencies supported a decision to develop the new KZ schedule for the law of nations and a companion JZ schedule for international relations.

The new JZ and KZ schedules were completed, as Mr. Medina noted, on Law Day, May 1. The K-KZ law classes include: official gazettes, comparative and uniform law (K); all domestic (national) law (K-KWX); and the global law of nations (KZ), including charters, treaties and customary international laws that govern the conduct of one nation with another. The J-JZ classes cover legislative and executive papers (J); political science (the state and political theory) in classes JA-JC; political institutions and administration (JN-JQ); and international relations and diplomacy (JZ). Institutions may classify their United Nations and European Community documents as either JZ, as the Library does, or KZ.

Said Mr. Strattner: "It really is a milestone that this rethinking of how to treat the law of nations in the LC classification system has been completed. This is why it was so important for the Law Library to celebrate the accomplishment of the Cataloging Policy and Support Office and particularly the achievement of Jolande Goldberg in completing this task."

— *Gail Fineberg*

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

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